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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT		25X1
SUBJECT	The Cooperative Union, Samokov	DATE DISTR.	19 July 1954	
		NO. OF PAGES	2	
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD	25X1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES		

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The Rayonen Kooperativen Suyuz (Rayon Cooperative Union) at Samokov, an okoliya center with a population of approximately 14,000, comprises all rural cooperatives in the okoliya. It is directly subordinate to the Tsentralen Kooperativen Suyuz (Central Cooperative Union) in Sofia, as is every other Rayon Cooperative Union. It has two primary functions, as follows:
- To collect agricultural produce, particularly the obligatory quotas; and
 - To supply the villages with all requirements, from seeds to industrial products.
2. The Rayon Cooperative Union does not market the goods which it sells. This is a function of the Durzhavni Dostavki (State Supplies), a branch of which is located at every okoliya center.
3. The Samokov branch of the Cooperative Union has the following four departments:
- Commercial, which is responsible for supplying the villages with industrial products; it has approximately 50 employees and maintains seven storage depots;
 - Collecting, which is responsible for quota collection of agricultural produce and supply of seeds and fertilizers to the villages; it has a staff of approximately 20 employees;
 - Dairy, which has direct control of all dairies in Samokov Okoliya; it has a permanent staff of 10 employees, but seasonal employment may swell this figure to 100; and
 - Vegetables, which is responsible for purchasing vegetables; since the Samokov area has a small yield of vegetables, this department is principally engaged in buying surplus vegetables from other areas; it has a staff of 10 workers.

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4. Peasants in Samokov Okoliya have stubbornly resisted the pressure put on them to join collective farms. Although they must pay higher taxes, deliver larger quotas, pay higher prices for seeds and equipment, and are not granted credit, the majority of them are still working their land on an individual basis.
5. Although the collective farms sell only their surplus quantities of produce, the individual farmer must deliver a pre-fixed quota at a pre-fixed price, regardless of circumstances. He may have to buy on the free market to be able to fulfill his quota to the government. In order to obtain a lower quota, some farmers are now lying about the area under cultivation or plowing under the crops. The village councils seem to be a partner to this practice, since they make no open criticism.
6. Under rationing, the villages experienced the same shortages which were prevalent throughout Bulgaria: Shortages of fats, sugar, rice, soap, and beans. The end of rationing has completely reversed the position. While the Rayon Cooperative Union can now supply unlimited quantities of all goods required, the higher prices and shortage of money have reduced the peasant to a lower state than existed under rationing.

7. [redacted] officials of the Rayon Cooperative Union at Samokov: 25X

a. Yordan Demyanov, director [redacted] 25X
[redacted] 25X

b. Aleksandur Drenski, chief accountant [redacted] 25X
[redacted] 25X

c. Georgi Mishev, deputy director for commercial matters [redacted] 25X
[redacted] 25X

d. Yordan Stoyanov, deputy director for collection [redacted] 25X
[redacted] 25X

8. Khristo Popkhristov is the first secretary of the Samokov urban Party council. [redacted] 25X
[redacted] 25X

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